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UPI-146

(AMERICANS)

NEW DELHI--COMMUNIST DIPLOMATIC SOURCES PREDICTED TODAY THAT COMMUNIST CHINA MIGHT RELEASE THE AMERICAN PRISONERS NOW IN ITS CUSTODY AS AN ACT OF AMNESTY ON OCT. 1.

THE SOURCES SAID SOVIET PREMIER KHRUSHCHEV HAD INDICATED TO PEIPING THAT RELEASING THE AMERICAN PRISONERS COINCIDENT WITH THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OBSERVANCE OF RED CHINA'S FOUNDING WOULD HELP EASE WORLD TENSIONS.

THE SOURCES SAID KHRUSHCHEV, WHO LEFT FOR PEIPING TODAY TO TAKE PART IN THE ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS, WAS EAGER TO BRING ABOUT A COMPROMISE BETWEEN RED CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES. THEY SAID HE PLEADED WITH PRESIDENT EISENHOWER DURING THEIR WEEKEND TALKS TO GET RED CHINA RECOGNIZED BY THE UNITED NATIONS.

THE QUESTION OF THE AMERICAN PRISONERS ALSO WAS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED IN THESE TALKS, AND KHRUSHCHEV WAS SAID TO HAVE INDICATED TO WASHINGTON THAT HE WOULD USE HIS GOOD OFFICES WITH PEIPING TO GET THE MEN RELEASED.

THE SOURCES SAID THAT RED CHINA MIGHT AGREE TO RELEASE THEM ON OCT. 1, MORE IN CELEBRATION OF THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OBSERVANCES THAN ON THE MERITS OF THE SITUATION.

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ADD AMERICANS, NEW DELHI (UPI-146)

IN WASHINGTON, OFFICIALS SAID THEY WERE UNAWARE OF ANY MOVE YET BY KHRUSHCHEV TO SEEK RELEASE OF THE FIVE AMERICANS.

THEY POINTED OUT THAT THE PRESIDENT TOLD NEWSMEN MONDAY THAT KHRUSHCHEV "MIGHT FIND IT POSSIBLE AS A FRIENDLY GESTURE...TO BRING UP THE MATTER OF OUR FIVE PRISONERS" WHEN HE GETS TO PEIPING LATER TODAY.

THEY SAID, HOWEVER, THAT THEY KNOW OF NO DEVELOPMENT AT THE CAMP DAVID MEETINGS THAT WOULD CARRY THE MATTER ANY FURTHER.

AMERICAN HOPES FOR SOME KIND OF ACTION BY THE CHINESE COMMUNISTS WERE RAISED SOMEWHAT BY REPORTS THAT THE GENERAL AMNESTY OF PRISONERS ON OCT. 1 WOULD INCLUDE NON-CHINESE.

9/29--N606P

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